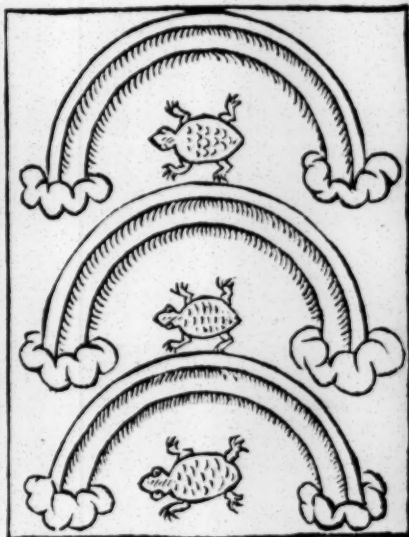


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The miserable estate of the

Citie of Paris at this present,

*With a true report of sundrie straunge visions, lately
seene in the ayre vpon the coast of Britanie,
both by Sea and lande.*



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The miserable estate of the Cittie
of Paris at this present, with a true report
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by Sea and lande.*



The present and distressed estate of the
Cittie of Paris, as it is unknowen to
some, so it is well known vnto many
thousand persons that daily seele the
force and bitternesse therof. The same
being most extream and lamentable,
I could doe no lesse but lay it open to
the view of the whole worlde that all the Cities in Chri-
stendome may take crample by the same, and feare hereaf-
ter to attempt the like inhumaine, vniaturall and most vi-
godly actions, which aboue all other that Cittie hath sundrie
times committed, especially in two points: first, in slaugh-
tering the blood of many thousande innocents, and second-
ly for resisting and rebelling from time to time against the
authoritie of their Soueraigne and Christian King, where-
in they haue of long time pœuishly continued. For which
their so insolent crimes, doubtles almighty God doth iustly
plague and punish them, the rather to make it knowne vnto
them and others, that he is a iust God, and will punish
the blood-thirstie and wicked, as he hath promised, euen to
the thurd and fourth generation.

Such haue beene the crimes of those proude and disloyal
Parisians, (who of late yeares liued in great prosperitie,
and abounded in wealth) that in the life time of that blood-
thirstie Butcher, and vniaturall Furtherer of Christians
called the Duke of Guize, with the consent of the Quene
mother and her associates, suffered to be accomplished and
performed within the saide Cittie, a lamentable Massacre
of many thousand innocents in one night, and such specta-
ally

ally as were of the flower and chiefe of the Nobilitie of France, the fact being yet so fresh in memorie, that the blood of those then slaughtered askeith reuerge and craueth blood againe vpon those hard hearted belhouers and their posteritie, now maintayners of their unholy League, that long time haue resisted the authoritie of the higher powers, and giuen their consents to seeke the dissolution and ruine of that kingdome, and the subuersion of their King, his Crowne and dignitie Royall, as they haue doone from time to time. For which their so horrible actions, together with their graueus crimes and detestable pride, whosedome, incest, gluttony, and such like abhominable vices which they of long time vsed, it hath pleased God to sende among them extreme famine (a sharpe messenger of reuenge to punish them) whereby they are at this present in such graueus distresse as it is lamentable to report. For the Citie is besieged round about by the Kings power which is very strong, and thereby hath cut them off from hauing any victuals or other succour whatsoever, their victuals within was spent long since, whereby they are in woefull case for want of foode. They are enforced to eate Horses, Asles, Dogges, Cattes, Rattes, Spice, and other filthy and vnaccustomed things for their sustenance, yea that which is moze odious in respect of their necessitie, it is sayd that they are enforced to fede one vpon an other: and that through feblenesse and want of victuals they fall downe dead in the streets and in their houses. A most lamentable and vnaccustomed thing to be done, yet constrained so to doe by meanes of their want and graueus famine, which is now generally among them. This their necessitie may be compared to the worst & miserable state of the Jewes at the siege of Ierusalem, where death threatned the destruction of all the inhabitants, thereby shewing them that for their wickednesse and wilfull stubbornnesse their destruction is at hand.

The Priests and Clergie men who are the ring leaders and principall gouernours there at this present time, persequing

perceiuing the great necessitie inhering into the Cittizens
 would bee diuyn, by meanes of their detestable persuasi-
 ons, dealt polittichely, sending for the Cittizens of Paris
 into severall Cloisters & religious Houses within the same
 Cittie, and commanded them to bring in all their warlike
 furniture which they had in their houses, to the intent that
 they might see if they were seruiceable or not for warre,
 so when they had gotten all the same furniture of pikes hal-
 bards, muskets, gunnes, dagges, swordes, and such like,
 they detained their weapons and sent euery man home a-
 gain destitute of any furniture, wherewith to defend them-
 selues if occasion should serue, whereby they haue weake-
 ned the whole multitude of Cittizens, and diuyn the
 strength of the Cittie into their owne direction and go-
 uernment, fearing least that famine shoulde compell the
 generall multitude to rebell against them, and so constrain
 the satte sed friers to yelde to their daily cutries, which
 is to yelde vpp the Cittie into the kingers handes, and to
 submitte them selues to his mercy, which to doe they can
 not compell them for want of weapons. Some here may
 happely demaunde, why the Cleargie men and chiefe Ru-
 lers, will not yelde it vppe as well as the rest, rather then
 to taste of famine and so to suffer so grievous and cruell a
 torment, which is moze bitter then death, but for answer
 thereto let this suffice. The Leagers and Cleargy men
 of the Cittie, suspecting long before that such misery would
 come to passe, did vitaille themselves for a long time, so
 that those especially that are chiefe gouernours, Officers,
 Watchmen, and Guard to the Cittie, haue yet some suf-
 ficient maintenance, neuer theles the ordinary friers are
 not far differing from the generall state of the lay men in
 that Cittie, for they are almost starued by reason of their
 small allowance, so that most of them looke like vnto wild
 men, whose countenance is leane and starue, as willing
 to snatch at the quarter of a gad dogge, as sone as any
 other, though it cost twentie shillings, as at this present it
 is worth among them. This is the true estate of the

said City and inhabitants therein, whose misery is doubt-
 les sent of God, as a sharpe scourge for their so great wic-
 kednesse and disobedience towarde God and their Soue-
 raigne Thus doth God still harden the hearts of the Go-
 uernours, and maketh them wilfull, blinde, and foolish in
 their owne fantic, that their punishment for their wicked-
 nes might be the more sharpe and grievous. The Prince
 of Parma for certaintie hath entered France with tenne
 thousand men of horse and foote, but soon after hee
 passed the borders, intending to aide those of the League,
 the Kings power gaue him a battaile and discomfited thre
 thousand of his men. They of the League are very for-
 rowfull for that the toltune of Spoutriall in Pickardie is
 yeelded vp to the King, which is of certaine troth & done
 verie lately. A generall Battaille is daily expected sooth-
 with, betwene the Duke de Mayne and the Christian
 King of Fraunce, for whome almighty God daily doth
 fight, and will doubtles speedily deliuer his enemies into
 his handes, they are within foure leagues one of another
 on both sides of a riuer. It is therefore very conuenient
 that all Christians should pray for the good successe of the
 King, that it would please God to giue him victory ouer
 those rebellious and traitorous persons. At the coming
 of the Prince of Parma into the French countries, it is re-
 ported there was visibly seene in the Aire to all his army,
 thre raine bowes, and betwene euery one of them the
 forme of a foade, and presently the riuers ther about seemed
 nothing but bloud, and so continued for a short space, wher-
 by his army was in great feare, and would willingly haue
 returned, but they were by their generall commaunded on
 paine of death to goe forwarde. Sundry such sights haue
 lately bene seene vpon the coast of France, for one of her
 Maiesties shippes called the Vanguard, being in the nar-
 row seas, met with nine hulkes and sixe boats of the lowe
 countries bound homeward from Spaine, where the Cap-
 taine examined them concerning sundry matters, who a-
 mong other things tolde him, that they being on the coaste
 of

of France, on the one and twentieth of June last, in a place called Bell Ile, the Sea round about them was of the colour of blood, for the full space of halfe an houre, and nothing was to be seene but blood, so far as they could discerne, & taking up the water in their buckets, they could not perceive it from bloude : this the Haister and other in the company did sweare to be true. Moreover in July last past the saide Shippe of her Maiestties called the Vanguard being at Sea, in an evening about setting time of the watch, all the men in the ship at the rising of the Mone, did discerne in the aire ouer the Mone the shape of a man, with a croun on his head and the King of Spaines armes plainly displaide, which continued visibly to bee seene for some small space, and soone after it was as a thing ouerthrowen and banished away, and seemed to them as though it were falling.

All which visions generall by the coniecture of sundry of god iudgement presageth, the ruine and confusion of those unholy Leaguers, upholden by the Pops and the King of Spaine, and contrariwise the good successe of the French King, whose ancient armes is the three toades. God for his mercie sake daily defende and protect him, that he may vanquish all his enemies, which seeke and pretend his utter confusion, which God grant for his mercy sake. Amen.

FINIS.



